OBITUARY

Louise May Russell 1905–2009

This tribute is presented in recognition of a truly remarkable scientist—Miss Louise May Russell (Figs. 1-7). She transformed herself from a small town farm girl in upstate New York to a world-renowned entomologist who studied aphids, psyllids, scale insects, and whiteflies. She started her scientific career in 1927 and published her last paper in 2006.

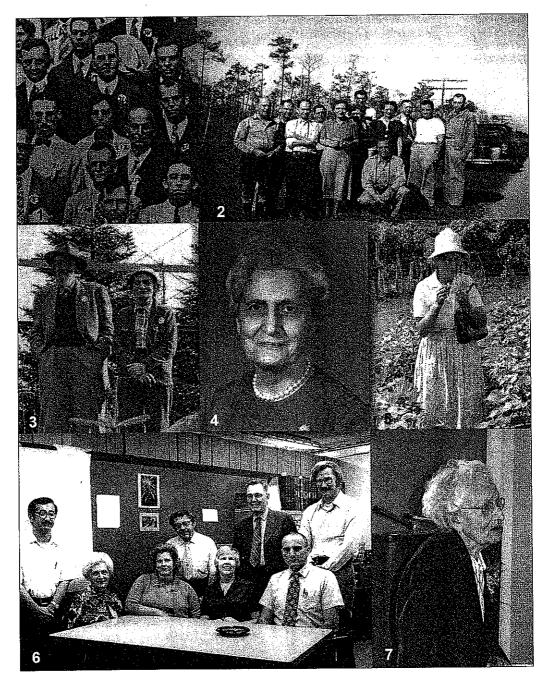
Louise was born in Crown Point, New York, on May 6, 1905, and was raised on a farm with her family of five brothers and one sister. She entered Cornell University in 1922 where she received a Bachelors degree in 1926 and a Masters degree in 1927, a feat few women accomplished at the time. In 1927 she applied for a job as a senior scientific aid with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, D.C. and spent several years mounting scale insects for Dr. Harold Morrison. She showed such promise that Morrison recommended her for a professional entomology position, which she achieved as a Junior Entomologist in 1929. She was promoted many times during her career: Assistant Entomologist 1938-1944, Associate Entomologist 1944–1946, Entomologist 1946-1953, Senior Entomologist 1953-1962, and Research Entomologist (GS-11 to GS-14) 1962-1975. During the last several years of her official employment, she was the Leader of a Unit comprising four or five scientists and two or three technical staff.

Louise published 106 scientific papers (more than 50 that were peer reviewed), 31 on aphids, 28 on whiteflies, nine on scale insects, seven on psyllids, two on cicadas, and one on cercopids (Appendix 1). Remarkably, she published her last article as a centurion at the age of 101. She described 84 new species of pit scales, 63 species and four genera of whiteflies, and two species of psyllids (Appendix 2). Surprisingly, she did not describe new taxa of aphids but clarified the identity of many species, particularly those of agricultural importance and solved numerous nomenclatural problems. Some of her most important works in scale insects came with the publication of her 1941 monograph on the genus Asterolecanium. As a measure of the quality of this pioneering work, she described 84 species; not one of them has been synonymized. Although recent research has been published on the group, Russell (1941) remains an important volume in the libraries of many researchers and identifiers.

Louise spent considerable time helping others and was honored by scientists worldwide for this effort with numerous patronyms. We have discovered 26 names (three genera and 23 species), and there may be more (Appendix 3).

In the area of identification services, she determined nearly 50,000 lots of scales, whiteflies, psyllids, and aphids including more than 200,000 specimens. Those determinations were critical for programs in quarantine, systematics research, pest control, and regulatory entomology and often required considerable

^{*} Accepted by Robert R. Kula



Figs. 1–7. Louise Russell. 1, At the International Congress of Entomology, Ithaca, NY, August 12–18, 1928 (center of photo, #212). 2, With fellow entomologists, Big Cypress, Florida, December 17, 1949; standing: Mickel, James, Walley, Miller, Russell, Mrs. Mickel, Rockstern, Mrs. Sabrosky, Pepper, Berner, Tissot; foreground: C. Sabrosky. 3, Hille Ris Lambers and Louise, Laurentide Park, Quebec, Canada, August 1956. 4, Portrait. 5, Collecting in El Salvador, Central America, September 1967. 6, With entomologists at the USNM, Washington, D.C., 1970s; standing: Nakahara, Herring, Froeschner, Miller; seated: Russell, Stoetzel, O'Neill, Kramer. 7, Reminiscing during her 100th birthday celebration at the USDA, Beltsville, Maryland.

time and research using the resources of the collections and associated libraries. She made major contributions to the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History collections by adding determined specimens that were submitted for identification, doing field work, and helping acquire major collections such as the Hottes collection of aphids and Tuthill collection of psyllids.

As an important contributor to systematics research on aphids, whiteflies, psyllids, and scale insects, Miss Russell participated in many international events including International Congresses of Entomology in New York (1927), Sweden (1948), Canada (1956 and 1988), Australia (1972), and Washington, D.C. (1976); International Congress of Zoology in France (1948); International Aphid Symposium in California (1964); International Congress of Plant Protection, Washington, D. C. (1979); and Entomological Conference of New Zealand (1972). She conducted field research in Puerto Rico (1952), El Salvador (1967), India and Pakistan (1970), and Colombia (1975). In 1970, during a review of cooperative research programs in India, she was asked to give a seminar at a local college; unfortunately, she became part of the political arena when her presence caused an anti-American protest by students who opposed the Vietnam War.

Miss Russell was an important figure in the Entomological Society of Washington. She was a regular member from 1930 to 1984 and served as Corresponding Secretary (1954–1955), President-elect (1965), and President (1966); in 1985 she was elected as an Honorary Member and in 1999 was elected Honorary President. She was an active member of the Entomological Society of America (ESA) from 1946 to 1984 and served as Chair of the Editorial Board of the Thomas Say Foundation (1958–1959), Chair-elect of

Section A (1957), and Chair of Section A (1958); in 1951 she was chosen as a Fellow, and in 1985 she was elected as an Honorary Member. She received the ESA's Eastern Branch L. O Howard Award for her contributions to the Society and entomology. She also was active in the Biological Society of Washington, Entomological Society of Florida, and the Washington Academy of Sciences.

In 1975, because of mandatory retirement at age 70, Louise left the official ranks as a USDA employee after a 48-year career. However, she continued to work as a Collaborator in the Systematic Entomology Laboratory for more than 25 years without financial compensation. She drove to the Laboratory nearly every week until she was in her early 90s and was accompanied by her friend and colleague Robert L. Smiley. Louise considered her most significant contribution to research on balsam-mounted insects to be her implementation of clear plastic sleeves to curate individual slides. This system precludes the use of paper sleeves. The advantage of her system is that duplicate writing on the paper envelopes is unnecessary, and it is possible to see specimens through the sleeves.

In 1995, Gary Miller recorded an interview with Louise. Nearly 70 years after she arrived in Washington, D.C. (September 22, 1927), Louise could remember her first day in the city vividly. Louise was hired by Dr. Morrison as a SP-06 (Sub-Professional level 6) for the annual wage of \$1,860. Stationed on the 3rd floor of the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum with Morrison and his team, Louise concentrated on making slides of scale insects and soon began to slide-mount other arthropods and insects. "Everything I did was so interesting," she recalled. Although things may have been interesting, she also recalled illustrating "just one" margarodid for Morrison, which she quipped, "was enough." Eventually Louise made routine identifications for scales that were consistently submitted in those days (e.g., Parlatoria pergandei). At Morrison's encouragement, she applied for the P-01 (Professional level 1) position. Morrison also encouraged her to work on Asterolecanium that eventually resulted in her magnus opus. Louise commented that she "always preferred [to study] insects on a slide." She had the opportunity to do this throughout most of her career.

Louise's interview also was fascinating from the vantage of her recollecting some famous entomologists of her time. She recalled meeting John Henry Comstock and regarded Glenn Herrick (economic entomologist) as a favorite professor at Cornell. She helped Anna Botsford Comstock prepare lab sessions at Cornell and commented about Comstock's teaching technique where she would ask many questions to involve the students. After L. O. Howard retired, she recalled him spending half his day in the entomology library looking forward to talking with other entomologists. The colorful Gordon Ferris was remembered as a highly opinionated individual who "said lots of things."

Louise never received a Ph. D., but she served on several graduate student committees (particularly at North Carolina State where she was an Adjunct Professor). Because of her great impact on Hemiptera systematics, scientific publications, and willingness to help colleagues and students worldwide, she frequently was deservedly addressed as Dr. Russell. When Louise turned 100 in 2005, a celebration was held at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland. Scientists from all over the world came to participate. The notable moment in the event was Louise giving an

extensive and eloquent presentation about her career and life as a USDA scientist.

On May 15, 2009, Louise passed away at the age of 104. She was a remarkable woman and an inspiration to all who knew her.

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Appendix 1. Louise M. Russell's publications.

Cushman, R. A. and L. M. Russell. 1940. Obituary: Grace A. Sandhouse. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 42: 188–189. (bees) 1

Russell, L. M. 1941. A classification of the scale insect genus *Asterolecanium*. United States Department of Agriculture, Miscellaneous Publications 424: 1–319. (scales) 2

Russell, L. M. 1943a. An apparently new species of *Paurocephala* Crawford. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 45: 115–120. (psyllids) 3

Russell, L. M. 1943b. A new genus and four new species of whiteflies from the West Indies. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 45: 131–141. (whiteflies) 4

Russell, L. M. 1944a. A taxonomic study of the genus *Aleuroglandulus* Bondar. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 46: 1–9. (whiteflies) 5

Russell, L. M. 1944b. Descriptions of nine species of *Aleuroplatus* from eastern North America. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 34: 333–341. (whiteflies) 6 SHARABA SA

- Russell, L. M. 1945. A new genus and twelve new species of Neotropical whiteflies. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 35: 55-65. (whiteflies) 7
- Russell, L. M. 1946a. A new African *Paurocephala* Crawford. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 36: 94–97. (psyllids) 8
- Russell, L. M. 1946b. The identity of *Chermes alni* Linne, 1758. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 48: 249–250. (psyllids) 9
- Russell, L. M. 1947. A classification of the whiteflies of the new tribe Trialeurodini. Revista de Entomologia 18: 1–44. (whiteflies) 10
- Russell, L. M. 1948. The North American species of whiteflies of the genus *Trialeurodes*. United States Department of Agriculture, Miscellaneous Publications 635: 1–85. (whiteflies) 11
- Heinrich, C. H., C. F. W. Musebeck, and L. M. Russell. 1950. Obituary: Sara Hoke DeBord, 1899–1950. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 52: 157–158. (insect illustrator) 12
- Gahan, A. B., L. M. Russell, and
 C. H. Heinrich. 1951. Obituary:
 James Chamberlain Crawford 1880–1950. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 53:
 107–109. (bees, chalcid wasps, thrips)
 13
- Russell, L. M. 1953a. The aphid genus Periphyllus. By E. O. Essig and Frieda Abernathy. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 55: 205. (book review) 14
- Russell, L. M. 1953b. Aphids of the Rocky Mountain Region. By Miriam A. Palmer. Canadian Entomologist 85: 479. (book review) 15
- Russell, L. M. 1957a. Distribution of legume-infesting therioaphidine aphids. FAO Plant Protection Bulletin 5: 78–79. (aphids) 16

- Russell, L. M. 1957b. Synonyms of *Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius). Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society 52: 122–123. (whiteflies) 17
- Russell, L. M. 1958a. *Orchamoplatus*, an Australasian genus. Proceedings of the Hawaiian Entomological Society 16: 389–410. (whiteflies) 18
- Russell, L. M. 1958b. The Aphidoidea of the Middle East. By F. S. Bodenheimer and E. Swirski. Annals of the Entomological Society of America 51: 551. (book review) 19
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1958c. The spotted alfalfa aphid and related species. Proceedings of the Tenth International Congress of Entomology 1: 327. (aphids) 20
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1959. New name combinations in a list of the species of *Dialeuropora* Quaintance and Baker. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 61: 185–186. (whiteflies) 21
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1960a. A whitefly living on roses. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of London, Series B, Taxonomy 29: 29–32. (whiteflies) 22
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1960b. Notes on the entomological writings of Asa Fitch, M. D., with special reference to his catalogues and reports. Annals of the Entomological Society of America 53: 326–327. (biography) 23
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1960c. The specific name of the potato aphid, and a redescription of the lectotype of *Macrosiphum euphorbiae* (Thomas). United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service 33–59: 1–8. (aphids) 24
- Dickson, R. C. and L. M. Russell. 1960d. A taxonomic study of the genus *Corbettia* Dozier. Extrait de la Revue de Zoologie et de Botanique Africaines 62: 120–137. (whiteflies) 25

- O'Neill, K. and L. M. Russell. 1961a. Obituary: Alice V. Renk 1908–1960. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 63: 67–68. (cataloger) 26
- Russell, L. M. 1961b. Notes on Amphorophora reticulata Mason. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 63: 124. (aphids) 27
- Russell, L. M. 1961c. Francis Walker's aphids. By J. P. Doncaster. Annals of the Entomological Society of America 54: 928. (book review) 28
- Russell, L. M. 1961d. Comments on the proposal to suppress *Dorsalis* Leach, 1827. Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature 18: 311. (aphids) 29
- Russell, L. M. 1962a. The spittlebug Lepronia coleoptrata (Linnaeus) in North America. United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative Economic Insect Report 12: 395— 396. (spittlebug) 30
- Russell, L. M. 1962b. New name combinations and notes on some African and Asian species of Aleyrodidae. Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society 57: 63–65. (whiteflies) 31
- Russell, L. M. 1962c. The black citrus aphid, *Toxoptera aurantii* (Fonscolombe) in Maryland. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 64: 90. (aphids) 32
- Russell, L. M. 1962d. Discussion of the case "Aphis Linnaeus, 1758, its type species and the family-group name derived from it (Insecta, Hemiptera). Z.N.(S.) 881". Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature 19: 195–196. (aphids) 33
- Russell, L. M. 1962e. The citrus blackfly. FAO Plant Protection Bulletin 10: 36–38. (whiteflies) 34
- Russell, L. M. 1963a. Changes in the scientific names of some common aphids. United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative Economic Insect Report 13: 84. (aphids) 35

- Russell, L. M. 1963b. Hosts and distribution of five species of *Trialeurodes*. Annals of the Entomological Society of America 56: 149–153. (whiteflies) 36
- Russell, L. M. 1963c. Obituary: Harold Morrison 1890–1963. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 65: 311–313. (scales) 37
- Russell, L. M. 1963d. A study of the Aphididae of West Africa. By V. F. Eastop. Quarterly Review of Biology 38: 403-404. (aphids) 38
- Russell, L. M. 1964a. The family name of aphids. United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative Economic Insect Report 14: 7. (aphids) 39
- Russell, L. M. 1964b. A review of the Machaeotidae. By T. C. Maa. Bulletin of the Entomological Society of America 10: 60-61. (spittlebugs) 40
- Russell, L. M. 1964c. *Dialeurodes kirkaldyi* (Kotinsky), a whitefly new to the United States. Florida Entomologist 47: 1–4. (whiteflies) 41
- Russell, L. M. 1964d. A new species of Aleurocybotus. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 66: 101–102 (whiteflies) 42
- Russell, L. M. 1965a. A new species of *Aleurodicus* Douglas and two close relatives. Florida Entomologist 48: 47–55. (whiteflies) 43
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 M. Russell. 1965b. Obituary: Lewis
 H. Weld 1875–1963. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 67: 121–125. (gall wasps) 44
- Russell, L. M. 1966a. Aphid pests of corn in the United States. Proceedings of the North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America 20: 51. (aphids) 45
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- Russell, L. M. 1966c. Aphis craccae
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- Russell, L. M. 1967a. Notes on, and a key to, the species of *Neophyllaphis* Takahashi. United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative Economic Insect Report 17: 187–194. (aphids) 49
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- Russell, L. M. 1973c. G. B. Buckton's works on Aphidoidea. By J. P. Doncaster. Bulletin of the Entomological Society of America 19: 222. (book review) 63
- Russell, L. M. 1973d. The correct citations for the reports on Homoptera collected during the Harriman Alaska Expedition. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 63: 154–155. (Sternorrhyncha) 64

- Russell, L. M.1974a. A list of the species of *Craspedolepta* Enderlein from North America. Journal of the Washington Academy of Science 63: 156–159. (psyllids) 65
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- Russell, L. M. 1976c. Aphids of economic importance in India. By A. K.
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- Russell, L. M. and M. B. Stoetzel. 1991b. Inquilines in egg nests of periodical cicadas. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 93: 480–488. (scales) 97
- Stoetzel, M. B. and L. M. Russell. 1991c. Aphis intybi, a pest of chicory intercepted at United States ports of entry. Entomologia Generalis 16: 147–155. (aphids) 98
- Etienne, J., J. B. Quiot, and L. M. Russell. 1991d. Les Aleyrodidae de Guadeloupe, cas de *Bemisia tabaci*. Colloques de INRA (Institut National de la Recherch Agronomique) 58: 85–91. (whiteflies) 99
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Appendix 2. Taxa described by Louise M. Russell.

Aleyrodidae

Genera: 1 Disiphon, 2 Vasdavidius, 3 Venezaleurodes.

Species: 1 Aleurodicus disperses, 2 Aleurocerus chiclensis, 3 A. coccolobae, 4 A. colombiae, 5 A. musae, 6 A. palmae, 7 A. petiolicola, 8 Aleurocybotus occiduus, 9 Aleuroglandulus emmae, 10 Aleuroglandulus magnus, 11 A. malangae, 12 Aleuroparadoxus arctostaphyli, 13 Aleuroparadoxus chomeliae, 14 A. gardeniae, 15 A. ilicicola, 16 A. rhodae, 17 A. sapotae, 18 A. trinidadensis, 19 A. truncates, 20 Aleuroplatus bignoniae, 21 A. epigaeae, 22 A. ilicis, 23 A. magnoliae, 24 A. semiplumosus, 25 A. vaccinii, 26 Aleurotithius mexicanus, 27 Bellitudo campae, 28 B. cubae, 29 B. hispaniolae, 30 B. jamaicae, 31 Corbettia baphiae, 32 C. grandis, 33 C. indentata, 34 Crenidorsum armatae, 35 C. commune, 36 C. debordae, 37 C. diaphanum, 38 C. differens, 39 C. leve, 40 C. magnisetae, 41 C. malpighiae, 42 C. marginale, 43 C. ornatum, 44 C. stigmaphylli, 45 C. tuberculatum, 46 Orchamoplatus calophylli, 47 O. noumeae, 48 Paraleurolobus chamaedoreae, 49 Trialeurodes bemisiae, 50 T. coccolobae, 51 T. colcordae, 52 T. eriodictyonis, 53 T. euphorbiae, 54 T. heucherae, 55 T. intermedia, 56 T. magnoliae, 57 T. multipori, 58 T. notata, 59 T. oblongifoliae, 60 T. phlogis, 61 T. similis, 62 T. tephrosiae, 63 Venezaleurodes pisoniae.

Coccoidea

1 Asterodiaspis bella, 2 A. luteola, 3 A. mina, 4 A. perplexa, 5 A. repugnans, 6 A. roboris, 7 A. suishae, 8 A. variabilis, 9 A. viennae, 10 Asterolecanium agavis, 11 A. borneense, 12 A. garciniae, 13 A. grandiculum, 14 A. inconspicuum, 15 A. ingae, 16 A. javae, 17 A. lacrimula, 18 A. machili, 19 A. medium, 20 A. psychotriae, 21 A. puteanum, 22 A. quadrisetosum, 23 A. quaesitum, 24 A. subventruosum, 25 A.

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ungulatum, 26 A. victoriae, 27 A. vitreum, 28 Bambusaspis abiecta, 29 B. acutula, 30 B. amboinae, 31 B. brunetae, 32 B. captiosa, 33 B. chinae, 34 B. circularis, 35 B. disiuncta, 36 B. flora, 37 B. fusa, 38 B. gemmae, 39 B. larga, 40 B. longula, 41 B. mimica, 42 B. minuscula, 43 B. notabilis, 44 B. oblonga, 45 B. ordinaria, 46 B. parva, 47 B. penicillata, 48 B. pusillus, 49 B. radiata, 50 B. sasae, 51 B. sparus, 52 B. subdolum, 53 B. vulgaris, 54 Hyalococcus striatum, 55 Neoasterodiaspis adjuncta, 56 N. castaneae, 57 N. horishae, 58 N. nitida, 59 N. semisepulta, 60 N. skanianae, 61 Palmaspis boliviae, 62 P. degenerata, 63 P. difficilis, 64 P. distincta, 65 P. flagellariae, 66 P. gilva, 67 P. inlabefacta, 68 P. inusitata, 69 P. oraniae, 70 P. pallida, 71 P. pinangae, 72 P. sabalis, 73 P. similis, 74 P. singularis, 75 P. truncata, 76 P. unica, 77 Pauroaspis elongata, 78 P. proboscidis, 79 P. scirrosis, 80 P. simplex, 81 Planchonia launeae, 82 P. zanthenes, 83 Russellaspis euphorbiae, 84 R. sumatrae.

Psyllidae

1 Paurocephala gossypii, 2 P. urenae.

Appendix 3. Patronyms honoring Louise M. Russell.

Aleyrodoidea

Aleyrodidae
Russellaleyrodes David, 1973
Aleurocanthus russellae Jesudasan and
David, 1991
Aleurolobus russellae Regu and David,
1993

Aleurotuberculatus russellae David and Subramaniam, 1976

Crenidorsum russellae David and David, 2000

Dialeurodes russellae Sundaraj and David, 1991

Disiphon russellae Martin, 2005 Tetraleurodes russellae Cohic, 1970

Aphidoidea

Aphididae Cinara russellae Pepper and Tissot, 1973 Dactynotus russellae Hille Ris Lambers,

Holatrichosiphon russellae Ghosh, Ghosh, and Raychaudhuri, 1971 Nasonovia houghtonensis russellae

Heie, 1979

1960

Phylloxeridae
Phylloxera russellae Stoetzel, 1981

Coccoidea

Asterolecaniidae

Russellaspis Bodenheimer, 1951 Asterolecanium russellae Lambdin, 1983

Asterolecanium louiserussellae Matile-Ferrero and Le Ruyet, 1985

Cerococcidae

Cerococcus russellae Kosztarab and Vest, 1966

Diaspididae

Crenulaspidiotus russellae Miller and Davidson, 1981

Lecanodiaspididae

Lecanodiaspis russellae Howell and Kosztarab, 1972

Psylloidea

Psyllidae

Russelliana Tuthill, 1959

Acizzia russellae Webb and Moran, 1974

Craspedolepta russellae Klimaszewski, 1977

Paurocephala russellae Mathur, 1975 Triozidae

Trioza russellae Tuthill, 1944

Coleoptera

Cerambycidae

Bottegia russellae Quentin and Villers, 1971

Acari

Pygmephoridae

Pygmephorus russellae Smiley and Whitaker, 1984